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.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

25X1A2g

DATE DISTR. 22 Dec 1948

SUBJECT Training of Prospective Czechoslovak Army Officers 25X1A6a

NO. OF PAGES 1

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



- 1. At the beginning of October 1948 a new plan for training and schooling prospective Czechoslovak Army officers was put into effect at amproximately six training centers in Moravia (Uherske Hradista, Ostrava) and three centers in Bohemia (Pardubice). About 1,800 officer condidates, chosen by the Communist Party and SCI (Czech Youth Association) and security checked by a special commission, have been assigned to these centers. The majority of the students come from workers' families and have had little education.
- 2. The schooling and training is divided into the following phases:
  - a. An eight-month introductory course which is intended to rake up for the lack of secondary school training. The subject ratter taught here is an extract of that taught from the fifth to the eighth grade of secondary schools. Military training and special political courses or riete the curriculum.
  - dents are to be enrolled in the Military Academy at Tranice for an additional period of two years. According to an official circular, only those candidates who have successfully completed the introductory comme are to be accepted in the Military Academy. Towever, since the number of successful graduates will be smaller than had been expected, and since there is practically no interest in the military profession among secondary school graduates, it is expected that practically all students enrolled in the introductory course will be sent to the Military Academy.
- 3. Long-term NCO's, too, are encouraged to arrly for Officers' Training Schools. But the NCO's display very little interest in becoming officers. As an example, Informant mentions a company from which six NCO's were sent to the Hillary Academy. Five of them have already come back, and the sixth will return in the near future.
- 4. Rudolf Slansky, in a public address in Pardubice on the occasion of the opening of one of the training centers, declared that these new officers are to become the backbone of the Czechoslovak Army. Only then, he added, can the spirit of true socialism prevail in the Czechoslovak Army.

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